

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 13283 081234Z

51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-04 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05

SS-15 STR-01 CEA-01 AGR-05 SWF-01 L-02 H-01 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 /095 W

----- 036384

R 080934Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8250

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT MARCOS SUSPENDS SUGAR EXPORT

REF: MANILA 13190; TOFAS 118

1. PRESS REPORTED NOVEMBER 8 THAT PRESIDENT MARCOS ORDERED IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF TRADING AND EXPORT OF SUGAR UNTIL DAMAGE FROM RECENT TYPHOONS CAN BE ASSESSED. THE ACTION WAS REPORTED TAKEN TO PREVENT AN INCREASE IN PRICE OF DOMESTIC SUGAR. APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WERE ALSO INSTRUCTED TO SUBMIT REPORTS ON DAMAGE BY NOVEMBER 12.

2. THE ANNOUNCEMENT CAUGHT EVERYONE BY SURPRISE SINCE MAIN FORCE OF THE STORMS HAS BEEN CENTERED IN CENTRAL AND NORTHERN LUZON AND NOT IN MAJOR SUGARCANE AREAS IN VISAYAS. AT MOST, LATTER AREAS RECEIVED HEAVY RAINS WITH SOME FLOODING WHICH NO DOUBT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MANILA 13283 081234Z

HAS IMPEDED HARVEST OPERATIONS AND DELAYED DELIVERIES TO PORT

LOADING AREAS. INDUSTRY

SOURCES HAVE CONFIRMED THAT ACTUAL DAMAGE HAS BEEN NEGLIGIBLE.

3. AS REPORTED IN REF TOFAS 118, FIVE SHIPS BOOKED TO LOAD SUGAR FOR U.S. FOUR SHIPS WAITING TO LOAD AND DON SALVADOR II SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE SOON. AGATTACHE UNABLE TO CONTACT KEY SUGAR OFFICIALS BUT ONE GOP SOURCE CONFIRMED THAT MESSAGE HAD BEEN SENT TO PORTS ORDERING SUSPENSION OF LOADING OPERATIONS.

4. PRESUMABLY PRESIDENT MARCOS WILL MAKE FINAL DECISION ON EXPORTS WHICH SOURCES SPECULATED WOULD COME NEXT WEEK. ONLY IMPACT AT THIS TIME, ON SHIPS WAITING TO LOAD SUGAR FOR U.S. IS DELAY IN ARRIVAL U.S. HOWEVER, LOADINGS CANNOT BE DELAYED LONG WITHOUT BEING ASSESSED DEMURRAGE CHARGES. AGATT RAISED QUESTION OF CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS, AND ALL CONTACTS AGREED THAT SUSPENSION WOULD NOT BE LONG-LIVED.

5. INDUSTRY SOURCES SPECULATED THAT ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE TO QUOTE MAKE THE HEADLINES AND PUT MORE PRESSURE ON ALREADY HIGH AND INCREASING WORLD SUGAR PRICES UNQUOTE. DECON ON RECEIPT.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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